

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT BR
SUBJECT: REACTION TO US INITIATIVES ON FRG-GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD

1. SUMMARY. REACTION AMONG CONGRESSIONAL LEADER TO US INVOLVEMENT IN FRG-BRAZIL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT IS RUNNING STRONG. SENATE LEADER AND FORMER MINISTER JARBAS PASSARINHO, WHO HAS CLOSE TIES TO MILITARY HAS ISSUED STRONG CONDEMNATION OF USG AND PRESIDENT CARTER FOR INTERFERING IN FRG-GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD. SPEECH ALLEGEDLY REFLECTS THINKING OF SOME BRAZILIAN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. PASSORINHO'S STATEMENT HAS BEEN ECHOED BY OTHER CONGRESSMAN OF BOTH PARTIES. PRESIDENT-ELECT OF CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES HAS ISSUED DOCUMENT DEFENDING BRAZIL'S RIGHT TO PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY. ARGENTINA AND INDIAN AMBASSADORS HAVE EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH BRAZILIAN SON STANDING UP TO PRESSURES AGAINST ACCORD. MAJOR CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENTS ATTENDED SECRETARY'S JANUARY 27 LETTER. END SUMMARY.

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2. SENATOR JARBAS PASSORINHO WHO IS VICE MAJORITY LEADER IN THE SENATE, JANUARY 27, STRONGLY CONDEMNED USG AND PRESIDENT CARTER FOR OBSTRUCTING THE FRG-GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD. DESCRIBING PRESIDENT CARTER'S ATTITUDE AS "EXTRAORDINARY", THE SENATOR SAID, "IT WAS DIFFICULT TO BE A FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES," AND ACCUSED THE

PRESIDENT OF ASSUMING "AN UNACCEPTABLE COLONIAL ATTITUDE" TOWARDS BRAZIL, WHICH DESTROYED FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. REFERRING TO THE MEMORDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BY THE TWO COUNTRIES LAST FEBUARY, PASSORINHO SAID THE DOCUMENT SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO PRESIDENT'S MOOD AND BRODEN#AT WILL BY THE CARTER GOVERNMENTS.

3. THE SENATOR CALLED A PROPOSED TRIPARTITE UNDERSTANDING INSTIGATED BY THE US WITH FEG AND GOB, A COLONIAL SENTIMENT THAT BRAZIL WOULD NOT ACPT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. HE ADDED IT WOULD BE NAIVE TO THINK BRAZIL WOULD NOT REACT AGAINST US INTERFERENCE, NOTING THAT THE GOB HAD THE RIGHT TO LOOK AFTER ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT PRESSURES FROM MOTHER COUNTRES. WHILE ADMITTING CONCERNS ABOUT PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR ARMS, PASSARINHO SAID BRAZIL HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT IT WAS NOT BELLIGERENT AND HAD SOLVED ALL ITS DISPUTES THROUGH ARBITRATION. IF THIS WAS NOT ENOUGH TO CONVINCE OTHER COUNTRIES OF BRAZIL'S INTENT TO USE NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, THE CONTROL EXERCISED BY THE IAEA WOULD ASSURE THAT BRAZIL'S OBJECTIVE WAS NOT TO BUILD A BOMB.

5. SENATOR'S OUTBURST, WHICH RELEASED DAY BEFORE SECRETARY'S LETTER TO SILVEIRA IS SIGNIFICANT BEACUSE PASSARINHO AS A FORMER MINISTER UNDER CASTELLO BRANCO AND MEDICI IS A FORMER OFFICER WITH CLOSE ITES TO THE BRAZILIAN MILITARY. IN AN OFF THE RECORD COMMENT TO REPORTER PASSARINHO SAID SPEECH REFLECTED STRONG DISCONTENT AMONG HIS ARMY FRIENDS WITH US POSTURE TOWARDS THE FRG-GOB ACCORD. PASSARINHO'S SPECCK MAY IN FACT BE THE SECON MESSAGE THIS WEEK FROM THE MILIATRY. ARENA DEPUTY AMARAL NETTO, CONSIDERED A SPOKEMAN FOR MILITARY INTERESTS, DEVIATED FROM USUSAL FORMAT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HIS RIO TELEVISION TALK SHOW JAN 24 TO LAUNCH TEN MINUTE ATTACK ON US OPPOSITION TO FRG-GOB ACCORD.

5. IN OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONGRESSIONAL REACTION, MDB VICE MINORITY LEADER IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ALENCAR FURTADO INDICATED THERE WAS ARENA-MDB SOLIDARITY OVER WHAT DEPUTY CALLED EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN FRGAAGOB ACCORD WHAT IS AN OUTRAGE TO NATIONAL SOVEREINNITY. HE ADDED "THE IMPERIALIST POWERS UTILIZE THIS METHOD OF INTERFERENCE TO INTIMIDATE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." ISSUE WAS NOT ACQUISITION OF REACTIONS BTU NATINAL SOVEREIGNITY. MDB SENATE VICE LEADER ITAMAR FRANCO CALLED FOR MORE AGRESSIVE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL MUST REJECT SUCH UNJUSTIFIABLE DIPLOMATIC ACTIONS.

6. IN RELATED EARLIER CONGRESSIANL REACTION, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES MARCO MACIEL ISSUED A DOCUMENT JANUARY 23 ON BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY. DOCUMENT FOCUSSED ON GOB'S PEACEFUL USE OF THE ATOM AND NEED FOR ENERGY INDEPENDENCE. DOCUMENT ALSO REPRESENTS AN APOLOGY FOR GOB RELUCTANCE TO SIGN

NPT, NOTING COUNTRY WISHED TO KEEP ALL OPTION OPEN FOR PEACEFUL
USE OF NUCLEAR IN DEVELOPMENT OF NATION.

7. IN LOCAL SHOW OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARIGTY WITH GOB,
ARGENTINEAMBASSADOR, IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUESTIONS, HAS
STATED ARGENTINE SUPPORT FOR BRAZIL. HE SAID "IF BRAZIL GIVES
INTO PRESSURES ON NPT, THE ARGENTINE POSITION WOULD
ALSO BE VERY DIFFICULT." BUT IF BRAZIL CONINUED TO RESIST THE
PRESSURES, "ARGENTINA WILL BE SOOTH BECAUSE IT IS PURSUING
THE SAME ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA." HE NOTED THE PROGRAMS OF
ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL WERE COVERING IN MAKING PEACEFUL USE OF
ATOMIC ENERGY, AND THAT THE STRATEGIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES WERE
COMPLEMENTARY. ALSO QUESTIONED BY PRESS, INDIAN AMBASSADOR
NARENDRA SINGH HAS CALLED ACCORD A "GOOD AGREEMENT FOR BRAZIL."
HE ADDED THAT THE SAFEGUARDS WERE DISCUSSED IN IAEA AND AP-
PROVED BY THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING INDIA.

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8. SHOULD BE NOTED THAT MAJOR STATEMENTS BY CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS
CITED ABOVE WERE MADE BEFORE RELEASE OF SECRETARY'S JANUARY 27
LETTER TO SILVEIRA. REACTION RECEIVED SO FAR TO THAT
LETTER ARE BEING REPORTED IN SEPTTEL.
CRIMMINS

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 29-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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